CHASE, KATE

DRAWER 10G

CONTEMPORARIES

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Abraham Lincoln's Contemporaries

Kate Chase

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

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the passage way; but little or no confusion occurred.

THE WASHINGTON WEDDING.

Interesting Details of the Ceremony.

HOW THE BRIDE AND GROOM WERE DRESSED.

THE PRESIDENT AND HIS CABINET OFFICERS AMONG THE INVITED GUESTS.

From the Washington Chronicle, we select the following details of the marriage of Senator Sprague and Miss Chase, on Thursday evening:—

The marriage ceremony between Senator (and ex-Governor) Sprague, of Rhode Island, and Miss Kate Chase, the beautiful and highly accomplished and eldest daughter of the Hon. Secretary of the Treasury, took place last evening, at half past eight o'clock, at the residence of the bride's father, corner of Sixth and E streets. Although the contemplated nuptials have been the occasional subject of newspaper comment for some time past, yet to the public at large the definite time of the marriage was not announced until within a day or two past.

THE INVITATIONS.

to the wedding were as strictly private as it was possible to be in consideration of the high social position occupied by both parties. Yet, notwithstanding this fact, some five hundred invited guests were assembled at the mansion of Secretary Chase, between the hours of half-past eight and twelve o'clock. The representatives of the newspaper press, with one or two exceptions, and these personal friends of the Senator and Secretary Chase, were, on this occasion, non-recipients of cards of invitation.

THE REPUTATION OF EX-GOFERNOR SPRAGUE,

not alone as Executive officer of the State of "Little Rhody" and as a statesman, but as a brave and gallant soldier, is world-wide. The part he took in defence of the Capital in July, 1861, at the first battle of Bull Run, is known to all our readers. At this battle he personally commanded a Rhode Island brigade, and behaved with great gallantry. Subsequently to this he was conspicuous as an officer upon General McClellan's staff during his Peninsula campaign. Besides these personal acts of merit in the field, Senator Sprague has on numerous occasions bequested a large proportion of his immense wealth to the organizing, equipping, and supporting of the soldiers from his own State, and by his personal influence and example has up to the present time encouraged a vigorous prosecution of the war.

MISS KATE CHASE,

The bride of the distinguished Senator, is a lady possessed of those rare virtues of heart and mind, which alone can be recognized and appreciated by those who are daily thrown in contact with her; and it is in the modest retirement of her own home that these graces sparkle and radiate like gems of dazzling splendor. Modest and retiring in her manner, yet blending withal a dignity and ease that singles her out to the least observant eye as a woman endowned with a nobility of heart, fitting her for any position in life, no matter how exalted.

DURING THE DAY

everything had been properly arranged for the reception of the guests. A roll of matting had been run from the main entrance down the steps to the carriage steps. Shortly after dark a large crowd of all sexes, ages, and conditions began to assemble around the mansion of Secretary Chase. They were very good natured as large crowds generally are, and waited patiently for the arrival of the first carriage. About half-past seven o'clock it drove up to the door, the occupants alighted and proceeded within. Shortly another arrived, and then another, and soon a continuous line of carriages ranged along E street, from Seventh st. to near Fifth street. As one after the other discharged their inmates some spicy and good-natured remarks were passed by the eager crowd in attendance. Much anxiety was manifested for the appearance of President Lincoln and Secretary Seward.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

did not arrive until half-past eight o'clock. He came in his private carriage, without escort and alone. The carriages were arranged all around the square and completely blockaded the passage way; but little or no confusion occurred.

THE MARRIAGE

took place at half-past 8 o'clock. At that hour the bride and groom entered the room, followed by the following named ladies and gentlemen: Miss Chase, sister to Miss Kate Chase; Miss Skinner, neice of the secretary, and Miss Nichols, neice of Governor Sprague; Major H. Balwin, of Gen. Stahel's staff; Capt. Hayes, of Gen. McDowell's staff, and Capt. Ives, Fleet Captain of the Potomac flotilla.

The parties having ranged themselves at the head of the room, the marriage ceremony was performed by Bishop Clark, of Rhode Island, in the chaste, beautiful, and impressive language of the Episcopal faith. Among the five or six hundred guests the utmost silence prevailed, and, at the conclusion of the ceremony, the relatives of the bride stepped forward and saluted her with a kiss. Then followed the scenes of joyous congratulation incident to such an occasion, which promised to occupy the best portion of the night before finished.

MISS CHASE WAS DRESSED

in a gorgeous white velvet dress, with an extended trail, and upon her head wore a rich lace veil. But little or no ornament was perceived upon her person. The Senator was clad in a suit of rich black cloth, with the usual additions of a white silk vest.

AMONG THE DIGNITARIES.

of the evening we noticed the President, Abraham Lincoln, together with nearly all the members of the Cabinet—Messrs. Stanton, Bates and others. Of the foreign ministers, there were present Lord Lyons and Count Mercier. The British and French legations were also well represented. The military was represented by Major Generals Halleck, Auger, McDowell, and other officers of lesser note. Senators Wilson and Conness, of California, we also noticed during the course of the evening. Hon. Simon Cameron and his two daughters were alike conspicuous among the hosts of guests assembled on the occasion, together with President Garrett, and William Prescott Smith.

At half past eleven o'clock

THE DANCING

(the Lancers) commenced in the dining room. The bride led off with Hon. R. C. Parsons, Ex-Consul to Rio Janeiro, as her partner. The young and beautiful daughter of General McDowell was singled out among the crowd for her very fine dancing. Among the belles of the evening was the daughter of the Brazilian Minister, whose beauty was the cynosure of all eyes.

DURING THE EVENING

the marine band, which discoursed most excellent music, performed a superb wedding march, especially written for the occasion, and dedicated to Miss Kate Chase.

THE BANQUET,

which occurred at a late hour in the evening, was a most sumptuous affair, and the edibles and viands were of the choicest description imaginable. The greatest hilarity prevailed on all sides, and mirth and merriment were the order of the evening.

Toward midnight the guests commenced to depart, and the scene that occurred outside the mansion, as the carriages drove up to the sidewalk and rolled off with their occupants, was a varied and animated one. The marriage passed off with the greatest *eclat*, and nothing occurred to mar the festivity of the occasion. Notwithstanding the high social position and extreme wealth of the twain thus united in the holy bonds of matrimony,

THE ENTIRE AFFAIR

was destitute of all that vulgarity of show and glitter which are so frequently the concomitants of such procedures. Everything seemed planned with a view to the comforts of the guests alone, and there was nothing calculated to offend the eye or taste. The long continued life and happiness of the newly married couple is the noblest epithalamium we can sing to the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Senator Sprague.

The Philadelphia Inquirer of this morning contains the following announcement of the arrival of the bridal party in that city:—

Senater Sprague and his bride, *nee* Miss Kate Chase, daughter of Salmon P. Chase, Secretary of the Treasury, whose nuptials were celebrated in Washington with great *eclat* on Thursday evening last, arrived in this city about one o'clock this morning from Washington, and are stopping at the Continental. The distinguished couple, accompanied by a bridal party, left Washington at six o'clock last evening in the private car of W. Prescott Smith of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road. The entire party will remain in this city until Monday next, when they will leave for New York, proceeding from thence to Rhode Island, where they will remain for some time, to receive the congratulations of their numerous friends and acquaintances.

The talented and patriotic ex-Governor and his beautiful and accomplished bride will, doubtless, receive a warm welcome from their many friends and admirers in this city.

The following are the names of the bridal party accompanying the happy pair:—

OF OHIO—Miss Nettie Chase, Miss Skinner.

OF WASHINGTON—Captain Haven, Major Baldwin, Captain Ives.

OF PROVIDENCE, R. I.—Mrs. F. Sprague, Miss. A. Sprague, Miss M. A. Nichols, Mrs. A. Sprague, Miss Susan Sprague, Miss A. Rice, Mrs. L. F. Friezer, Miss Palmer, Miss Fisher, Mr. J. A. Gardner, Mr. C. D. Jillson.

The journey from Washington was conducted quietly, and publicity avoided as much as possible.

EPITHALAMIUM FOR GEN. SPRAGUE AND MISS CHASE.

BY JOEL BENTON.

I.

Wind of Summer, soft and sweet,
Blowing up the coast to-day.
Kissing all the snowy fleet
In and out the silver bay—
Waft up joy on rosy feet—
Fan all clouds and care away.